

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 2, 2005

The Honorable Alberto Gonzales
Attorney General of the United States
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

We write to request a copy of a classified Justice Department security review of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) immigration laws in the aftermath of September 11th.

A recent press report indicates that Jack Abramoff may have had access to this classified Justice Department report.¹ An August 7, 2005, *Los Angeles Times* report indicates that the then-Acting United States Attorney for Guam and CNMI, Frederick A. Black, "arranged for a security review in the aftermath of Sept. 11 that was seen as a potential threat to loose immigration rules favored by local business leaders. ... Abramoff ... alerted his clients in a memo about the expected report and warned 'It will require some major action from the Hill and a press attack to get this back in the bottle.' The lobbyist also wrote that he and his aides expected to meet in the near future with Justice Department officials"²

An e-mail also discusses Mr. Abramoff's possible access to a classified Justice Department report.³ In an e-mail exchange dated October 1, 2001, Mr. Abramoff informed his client contact at the CNMI that "the bad guys who still work there [at the Justice Department had] ... started a drum beat that the CNMI had to be taken over, because it was a loophole in the federal immigration network, and that, as such, was a threat on terrorism. They have been spending a week or so telling everyone who will listen that the CNMI, if it is not taken over, will be a major entry point for terrorists." Mr. Abramoff further explained that "we had the COS of the Justice Department in our box at today's Redskins game and it seems that there might be a classified document floating in the department which deals with this matter."⁴

¹Walter F. Roche, Jr., Inquiry Into Lobbyist Sputters After Demotion, *Los Angeles Times*, August 7, 2005.

²*Id.*

³Email from Jack Abramoff (abramoffj@gtlaw.com) to Maya Kara (maya@saipan.com) October 1, 2001, on file with the United States House of Representatives, Committee on the Judiciary, Minority Office.

⁴*Id.*

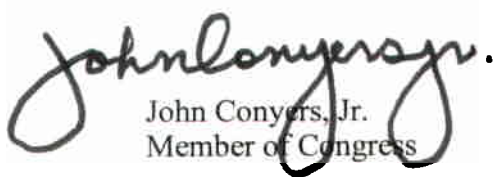
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Mr. Abramoff assured his client that he was "supposed to see the Attorney General next week" and that another lobbyist in his group "was slated to play basketball with him before then" and that they will "both mention this to him." He noted that while the "AG will be fine," the "underlings are a worrisome matter." He also indicated that "we'll pass on what we get from the COS, and you guys should do your best to hook up with as many Asst AGs as possible and the political folks there."

As you are aware, Mr. Abramoff's possible unlawful access to this report prompted us, on August 23, 2005, to request that the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) investigate this matter. Also, on October 6, 2005, we asked that a special counsel look into this matter. We request a copy of this classified Justice Department security review of Guam and CNMI immigration laws in the aftermath of September 11th so as to gain a better understanding of Mr. Abramoff's alleged conduct in this matter.

We appreciate your prompt consideration of this request. Please reply through the House Judiciary Committee Minority Office, 2142 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 (tel: 202-225-6504; fax: 202-225-4423).

Sincerely,



John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



George Miller
Member of Congress



Nick Rahall
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable William Moschella
Assistant Attorney General

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee